



B.A.R.G. News

Volume 19 Issue 6

VK3BML

July 1996

THE PRESIDENT REFLECTS

Another year has slipped quietly past as we all repeat the oft used phrase "where the hell does the time go?"

The last 12 months has been noteworthy for many reasons, not all of them good, as we remember the tragedies, and accidents that have occurred throughout the world, and closer to home we mourned the loss of our good mates Maurie Batt, Keith Ridgeway, Bob Rowlands and Freddy Quick. But of course these lows were offset by the successes achieved in a wide range of fields from sport and the arts to technology and medicine.

At B.A.R.G. we were fortunate to experience another successful year. Not least of our successes was the annual "Hamvention" held at the end of October '95. Our concerns about shifting to a new venue proved to be unfounded as we were able to exceed the results previously attained. My thanks to Tom VK3DMK, Cliff VK3CCB & all who helped to achieve a good result, and of course the next event will be even better.

The Education Program continues to forge ahead with several more new calls won, and more exams are being held shortly. Well done to Tom, Reg VK3CAZ and Ian VK3AXH and all involved with this program, not forgetting Charlie VK3DCS who is responsible for staging the examinations.

The Monday evening "Construction Nights" have really caught on, thanks to Bob VK3BNC and his willing assistants, and are being well attended, with many and varied projects being developed under the expert eyes of our more experienced constructors.

Keep up the good work, after all this is a major facet of Ham Radio, a facet which has been lacking in recent times as we scrambled to buy our 'black boxes'.

Unfortunately our attempt to create a new 'award' based on the

Eureka Affair had to be deferred until '97 to coincide with the building of the Eureka Centre, but the groundwork is well advanced waiting on call sign allocation next year.

A great deal of work has been done by the sub-committee led by Les VK3JEM, involved with trying to find B.A.R.G. a new home, and we are indebted to them for their endeavour so far.

The activation of VK3BML for the Novice Contest was another successful venture and we await the contest results with interest and crossed fingers.

Other events such as WICEN, the BARG Net, and the Sunday Night 2M Scramble still continue and I thank Cliff, Reg, Daryl VK3XDQ, Tom and Doug VK3KAY for the running of these events.

The production of the BARG Newsletter, and its distribution, is a big job when it must be done every month, and I know that I speak for all members when I thank Norm VK3LEA for his efforts with the magazine and other promotional material.

The technical committee led by Dick VK3AEX have excelled themselves again this year, spending many hours working behind the scenes. Thanks fellas.

Doug VK3VBA has also earned our thanks for running our QSL card distribution, and has also been active, with Alan VK3NAS in raising additional funds.

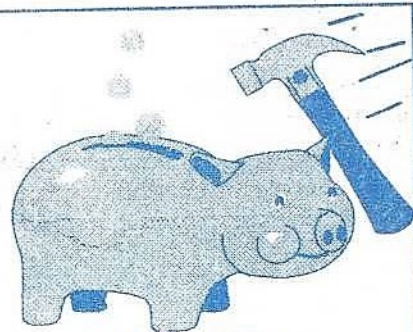
My thanks go to all members who have accepted a responsibility to assist the club by helping in various ways at BARG functions and by their participation.

Our membership during 1995/6 dropped from 108 last year to 77 this year, mainly because of the necessary increase in fees, but your Committee is recommending that there is to be no further fee increase next year.

My warmest thanks go to Secretary Geoff VK3ADB & Treasurer Harry VK3KGL without whom BARG could not function, and to Mary VK3FMC for organising our "picnic" trips and standing in for Geoff when needed.

73, thanks for your support, and the very best to the incoming committee.

de Gordon - VK3FGC.



It's THAT time again!!

You are reminded that your Annual Membership Subs. to B.A.R.G. become due on the 1st. of August 1996 and must be paid prior to the 31st. October 1996 to retain membership for the 1996/7 year. The Subs. Schedule is the same as last year viz:

Full Member	\$25.00
Student (with card)	\$20.00
Family	\$40.00

Membership fee includes the production and posting of the BARG Newsletter each month (except January.) Please notify any changes to address, call sign, or details when renewing. New members can obtain Membership Forms at meetings, or from the Secretary.

TNX.



BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC.

OFFICE BEARERS - 1995 / 1996

WORK

HOME

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VICE PRESIDENT
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT
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ASST. SECRETARY
TREASURER
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
EDUCATION OFFICER
EXAMINATIONS OFFICER
TECH. OFFICER
TECH. OFFICER (DIGITAL)
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MEMBERS' REP.
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NET CO-ORDINATOR
AWARDS MANAGER
LIBRARIAN / HISTORIAN
PUBLICITY OFFICER
PROPERTY OFFICER
WICEN COMMITTEE

*These positions are
NOW VACANT*

*Have YOU nominated
to help share the load?
Please Consider!*

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

HAMVENTION CO-ORD.

LIFE MEMBERS:

MAURIE BATT (VK3XEX) SK
 GEORGE SMALL (VK3DKJ) SK
 KEVIN HUGHES (VK3WN)
 STAN WIDGERY (VK3SE)

IAN McDONALD (VK3AXH)
 JIM WRIGHT (VK3CFB)
 PHIL SEDDON (VK3AQM)

CLUB STATION

VK3 BML

REPEATERS VK3RBA (Voice) 146.750 MHz. - Mt. Buninyong.
 VK3RBS (Voice) 146.900 MHz. - Smeaton Hill
 VK3RPC (Packet) 144.750 MHz. - Mt. Warrenheip.
 VK3RBU (Voice) 438.475 MHz. - Mt. Hollowback.
 VK3RMB (Beacon) 432.535 MHz. - Mt. Buninyong.
 VK3RBV (ATV) 426.250 MHz. - Ballarat

ACTIVITIES CLUB NET: Thursday nights at 8 pm. (8.30 pm during Daylight Saving). Freq: 3.610 MHz +/- QRM.

2 METRE SCRAMBLE: Sunday Nights at 7.50 pm. Freq: 146.425 to 146.600 MHz. Inc.

Call back held on VK3RBA 146.750 MHz.

Logs monthly to D. Quirk - P.O. Box 78 - Newstead 3462 (or Meeting) to qualify.

MEETINGS: General Meeting : Last Friday of each month (except December) at 7.30 pm.

Venue: Ballarat Adult & Further Education Centre (BRACE) 602 Urquhart St. (Cnr. Windemere St.)

FOX HUNTING: As arranged during the year.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE to: The Secretary - BARG Inc.

Box 1261

Mail Centre

Ballarat 3354

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The Minutes



MINUTES OF BARG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 28TH.JULY 1995

The AGM for 1994/5 was opened at 7.50pm. with President Bob VK3BNC extending a welcome to all present.

APOLOGIES were accepted on behalf of the following VK3's: AGD, ADB, VCW, YMW, NIZ, VU, NAS, SE, TDG, KIT (FGC/LBA)

SILENT KEY: A tribute to Maurie Batt VK3XEX (SK) was paid by President Bob and sympathy extended to his wife Marj, and family. A minutes silence was observed.

THE MINUTES of the AGM held on the 31st.July 1994 were read and confirmed. (XDQ/CAZ)

PRESIDENTS REPORT: President Bob VK3BNC elaborated on the years activities as printed in his report in the July Newsletter.

TREASURERS AUDITED REPORT: was circulated, discussed and accepted. (KGL/CAZ)

NOTICE OF MOTION:

1. "Rule 4 Sub.Rule(ii) be ammended to read : The Annual Subscription shall be

Full Member \$25.00

Student Member \$20.00

Family Members \$40.00

(or such amount as the Committee may determine, and ratified by members at the Annual General Meeting) and becomes due on the first day of August in each year, and payable by the last day of October in each year, when if still unfinancial, the persons name shall be removed from the membership list."

(FGC/DCS) Motion carried.

2. That a new Rule 36 be added which shall read: "The Committee shall have the power to make By-laws for the management of the Group, provided they are not opposed or inconsistent with the rules of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group; and may alter, amend, or rescind such By-laws from time to time as occasion may require. A book containing the Model Rules and By-laws shall be kept by the Secretary."

(FGC/XDQ) Motion carried following discussion.

SCRAMBLE RESULTS: President Bob presented the following certificates for performances in the BARG weekly 2M scramble. Encouragement (Earth Stake) Award VK3CIS

Championship Runner up VK3CAZ

1994/5 Champion VK3KAY.

President Bob expressed his appreciation for the support received throughout the year. He then declared all Offices vacant.

The Returning Officer - Bud VK3AAP - thanked Bob, on behalf of the members, for his efforts during his Presidential term.

ELECTION: The election was duly held and the new officers elected for the 1995/6 year.

(See attached list.)

The incoming President - Gordon Cornell VK3FGC presented Bob VK3BNC with a certificate recognising his term as President.

The A.G.M. concluded at 8.37pm.



The Minutes



of the Meeting held 28th. June 1996

President Gordon VK3FGC welcomed members and visitors including VK3IDC (Ian).

APOLOGIES were accepted from VK3's ADB, LBA, DMK, KQQ, JFL, CFH, DS, BNC, NIZ and ZHH. (CAZ/XDQ)

MINUTES as circulated per Newsletter. (XDQ/VBA)

TRIBUTE: A tribute to VK3KQF was made by VK3CCB and one minutes silence was observed.

President Gordon extended sympathy to VK3ADB on the death of his father.

TREASURER'S REPORT:		Receipts:	Nil	
		Payments:	Bank Charges	\$ 1.21
			News. Postage	\$101.48
			News Printing	\$ 28.06
		Current Balance Gen. Acct.		\$190.01
Accounts for Payment:		Ballarat Courier (Bereavment)		\$ 20.90
		Norm D'Angri (News Postage)		\$ 36.10
		John Graham (News Printing)		\$ 27.75
		Doug Raper (Trophies)		\$ 30.00
				(KGL/DCS)

REPORTS: FACILITIES: Lease suggested by Scouts unacceptable.
Other venues being investigated.

EDUCATION: Four now attending - another 3 sessions. Exams - August 22nd

WICEN: Letters with forms distributed. Test day for pre-registration August 4th., with revision at end of July. New message format now drafted. Bike Ride in November.

NET: Steve Bushell (VK3HK) Vic. Division, in charge of WIA Broadcast requests News items.

QSL: Few cards in. Trophies were presented to:
VK3XDQ for most cards in / out.
VK3CCB for most cards out.
VK3CCB for most cards in.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. A.G.M. next meeting. Nominations are requested - Forms are in Newsletter. Recommendation from Exec. Committee that fees should not be increased.
2. Some projects made on Construction Nights (e.g.- "J" poles) could be sold at Hamvention with proceeds going towards club rooms. Exec. to consider.
3. Article on printed circuits by Ian VK3AXH for Newsletter.
4. Request for assistance with equipment by David VK3YNB.
5. VK3KUW suggests group for those interested in low orbiting weather satellites and slow scan T.V.
6. R.D. Contest August 17th. - Location VK3CAZ. Les VK3JEM & Cliff VK3CCB to co-ordinate.
7. VK3AAI (Murray) distributed (at Mt. Gambier) brochures for our Hamvention.

MEETING CLOSED at 20.55

NEXT MEETING 26 th July 1996. 73 de Mary VK3FMC

FINALLY: When the cat is away - there's less hair on the furniture !!!!!!!!!!! TNKs Mary.



HEWITT & WHITTY

Running on GAS?

Check out the NEW Castrol GAS ENGINE OIL SAE 15W-40SG API rated and designed to ensure maximum engine life and minimum oil consumption for LPG fueled engines.

\$22.00 for 6 litres. (Inc. Tax)

If Diesel's your scene then the great CASTROL RX SUPER SAE 15W-40 has been developed for your vehicle and is equally successful and beneficial in cars using leaded and unleaded petrol \$65.65 for 20 litres (Inc. Tax)

We've also got **ROUNDUP HERBICIDE** at a good price.
73 de Bill VK3PH



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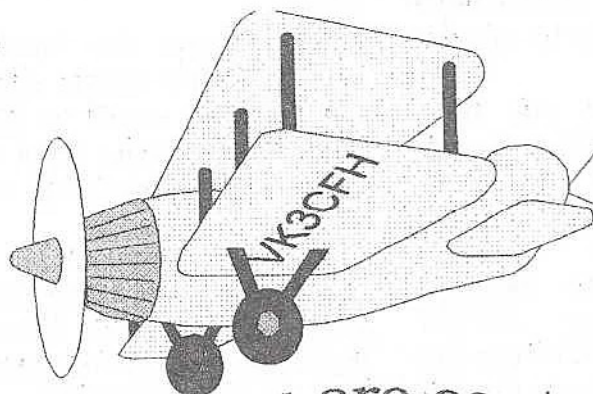
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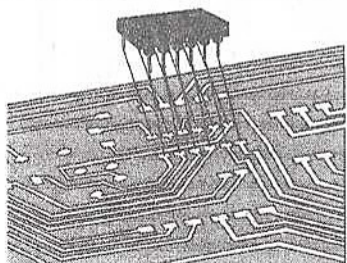


BARG HAMVENTION
26/27 th. OCTOBER



IF you are contemplating a trip to the
(and who wouldn't be?) you should be
BARG Hamvention
considering your accomodation
requirements **NOW.**

Because of it's superior weather and diverse cultural and sporting activities Ballarat has become a Mecca for various organisations who want to "strut their stuff" and this last weekend in October is no exception. Consequently all accomodation will be at a premium as always, so our advice is to get your reservations in early 'cos we wouldn't want you to miss the BARG HAMVENTION '96 - It'll be great mate!!



On the Workbench

Low orbiting Satellite, Weather Fax and SSTV Interface
By Ian VK3AXH

Many club members have already made an interface to connect a receiver to their computer to receive SSTV using JVFAX. Well here's another stage to add on if desired or start from scratch, which will allow the display of both weather fax pictures from the low orbiting NOAA and METEOR satellite stations as well as SSTV.

In addition to your PC you will need a receiver (scanner) capable of receiving signals around 137 MHz FM. Whilst it is ideal that the bandwidth of the receiver be around 50KHz very good results can still be obtained with a 15 KHz bandwidth receiver.

Shown on the next page is the circuit diagram together with a printed circuit board component overlay and PCB track layout. All of the components are available from Dick Smith Electronics and the cost should not exceed \$30.00 to \$35.00. If you come along to the Monday night construction meetings, with some printed circuit board material, we can show you how to make your own printed circuit board using very simple techniques, or alternatively you may wish to make your own arrangements.

The manufacturing technique is simple, and with a little experimentation very good results can be achieved.

The basic principle of producing the circuit board

involves copying the layout onto paper or using a laser printer (I am told that a photo copy will achieve similar results). Using a hot iron the image is ironed onto the copper of the PCB. This action transfers the toner which will then act as a resist during the etching process.

If you have already built the SSTV interface then you can omit the LM741 and associated components (R10, C5, D5-D8). Once the required components have been placed on the circuit board and all connections checked, it is time to fire the unit up.

Assuming that you have built the complete board, simply connect to your computer com. port, switch the selection switch WEFAX/SSTV to WEFAX and using your JVFAX program select FAX from the main menu. Next use the (M) key to select any of the NOAA satellites. Once this is done connect 12 volts to your interface board and with luck you will see a signal on the spectrum graph. By adjusting pots P1 and P2 (P3 should be maximum), you will be able to position the signal to the left hand or black end of the spectrum graph. Next you will require a signal from your scanner to receive pictures. Your existing 2 metre antenna will be good enough to test the system, however a dedicated crossed dipole for

137 MHz together with a preamp will do wonders. Antenna and preamp details can be supplied if required.

Frequency for NOAA 14 is 137.620 MHz while NOAA 10 and 12 are on 137.500 MHz.

The MET 3/5 frequency is 137.850 MHz.

Orbital information on the NOAA 14 (the most convenient and popular orbiting satellite at present) is available using the program "instant track". If you don't have a copy then please let me know.

To change the interface back to SSTV simply change the selection switch to SSTV and shift the audio input lead to your HF receiver and away you go.

For those serious about this project there will be plenty of help available at the Monday night construction meetings or by contacting VK3AXH.

Good luck de Ian VK3AXH.

**TECHNICAL BITS
ARE ON
THE NEXT PAGE**

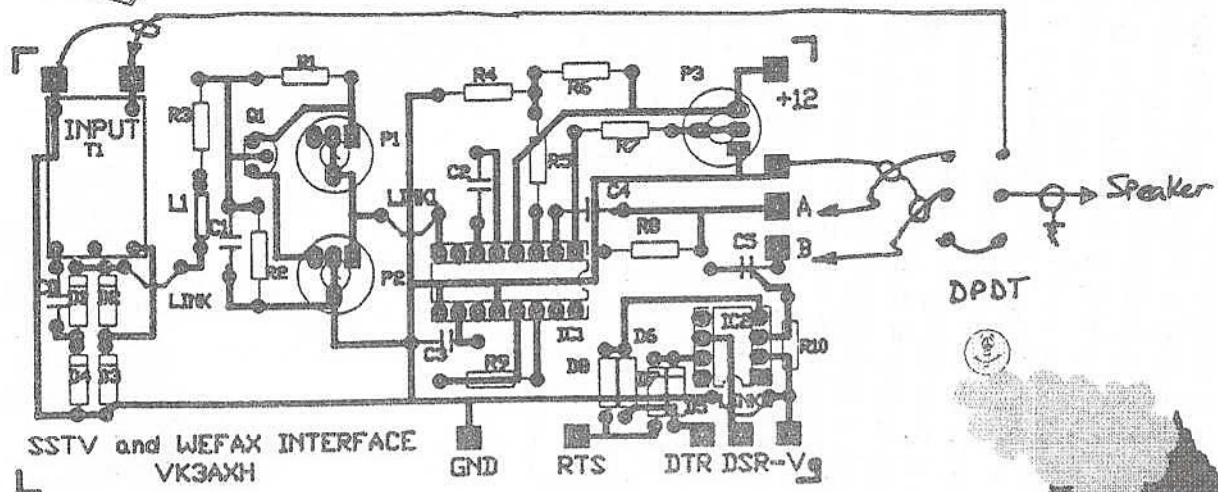
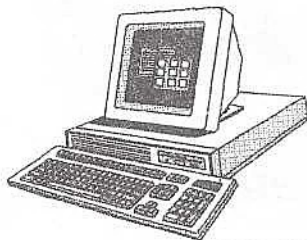
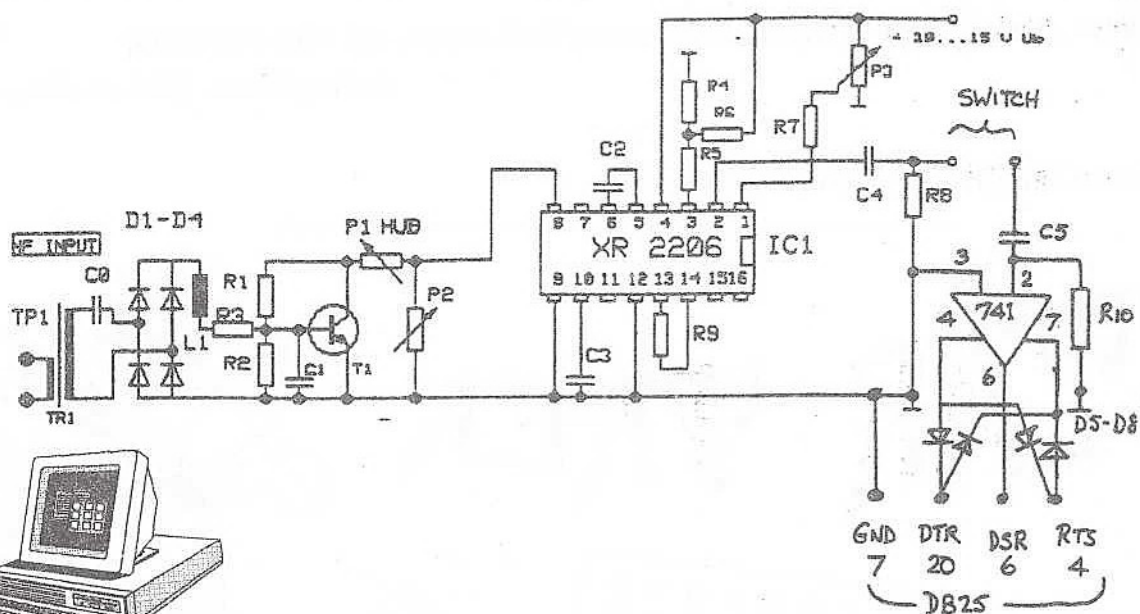


SSTV and WEFAX Interface (cont'd)

PARTS LIST

R1	47k	C0	0.1µf	P1	22k
R2	22k	C1	0.1µf	P2	22k
R3	47k	C2	0.1µf	P3	100k
R4	47k	C3	0.22µf	TR1	1:10 8Ω to 1k
R5	47k	C4	0.1µf	T1	BC547C
R6	47k	C5	0.1µf		
R7	33k				
R8	1k	L1	6µh	D1-D4	1N4148 or 1N914
R9	220Ω			D5-D8	1N4148 or 1N914
R10	47k				

Note: Capacitors should be greencaps. L1 will be a 6.8µH choke.



COMPONENT SIDE



FOR SALE - DECEASED ESTATE OF VK3KQF.

Icom IC27A 2M FM Speech synthesizer, mobile mount & microphone, 25 and 5 Watt,
9 memories , multi-purpose & priority scanning. Instruction Manual and Original box.

Asking Price - \$300.

Icom IC u2a 2M FM Hand Held. Mint condition, Instruction Manual and original box.

Asling Price - \$150

Yaesu FT101E HF with filters, AC/DC , Mic. This unit still has the plastic cover on the front
and is in A1 condition.

Asking Price - only \$400.

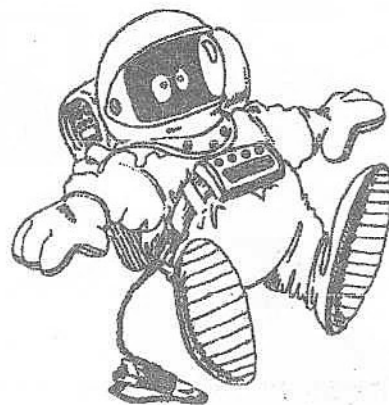
Dummy Load - Offers !

Welz SP-430 144/430 MHZ SWR and **Power/Volt** meter, still with packaging.

Asking Price - \$90 or offers.

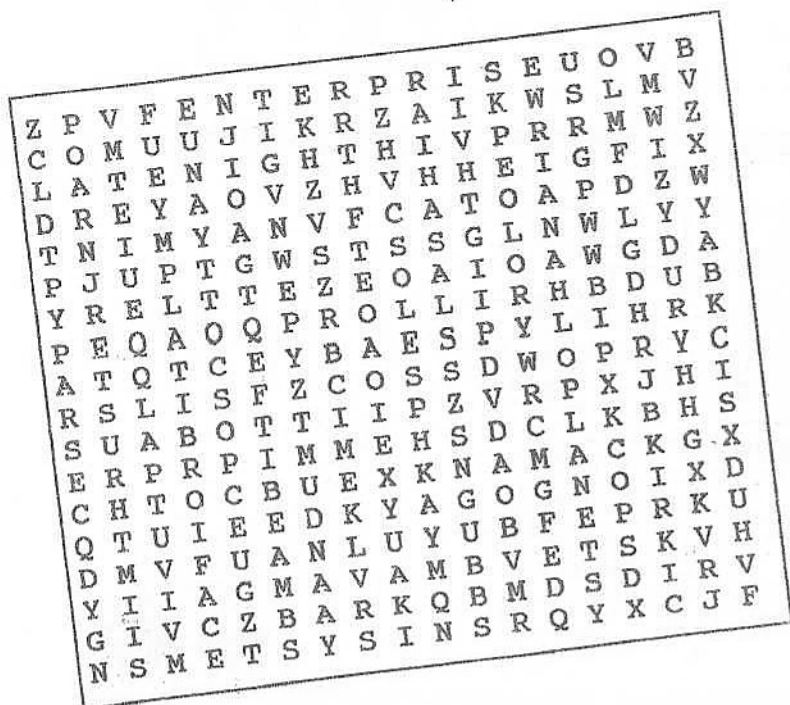
Please contact Cliff (VK3CCB) on (053) 361249

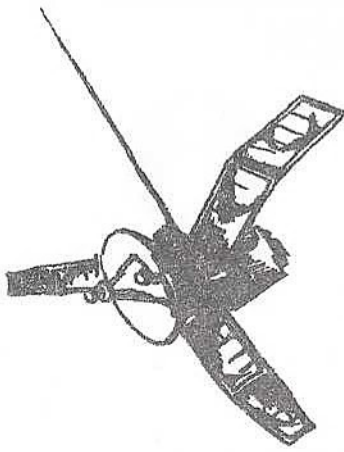
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KIRK
LATENIGHT





SATELLITE NAVIGATION IS COMING TO AUSTRALIA

BALLARAT COURIER - July 13th 1996. by Ewan Kennedy.

Satellite navigation is finally coming to Australia.

Though it has been in use in Europe, the USA and Japan for a number of years, satellite navigation (commonly abbreviated to sat. nav.) has been slow in coming here. That is principally because of the huge areas to be mapped in Australia and the small population available to pay for the product.

Under an agreement between Telstra, Philips, UBD Directories and BMW, a satellite navigation system known as CARIN will be introduced to Melbourne in the first quarter of 1997 and to Sydney about three months after that. Other major centres, and important interstate routes will follow early in 1998.

Basically, sat nav is an electronic street directory. A small TV style screen on the dashboard has a map on it. You tell the system where you want to go and it highlights the best route to follow. It then gives you on-screen directions as to how to get there. Telling you visually, and verbally if you wish, what turns to take.

For example, it tells you to take the second street to the right, then first left, third right and so on. It operates to an accuracy of

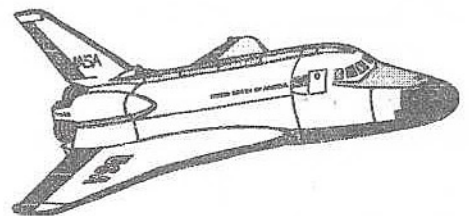
as fine as ten metres.

Should you find that the route you were planning to take has been blocked by a crash, or by heavy traffic, you can then ask the sat nav system to find another route.

The system can also be asked to provide emergency directions to the nearest hospital. Information on Hospitals, and many other public places is built into the system. Commercial information can be part of the system, for example you will be able to ask for details of Italian Restaurants within a certain area - and the best route to follow to the one of your choice.

Other useful features include the sat nav system advising if the car is low on petrol, and suggesting the best route to the nearest service station.

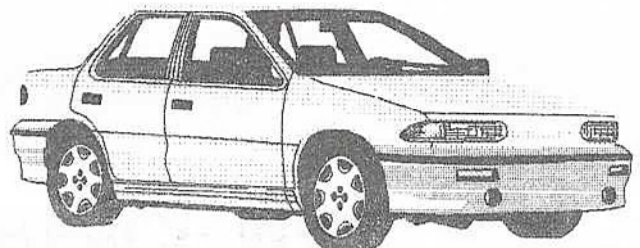
Eventually it will be possible to provide the address of a private house, or indeed of any other place, and the system will guide your car there. One day it will be possible to simply enter the telephone number of the place you want to go to and sat nav will give directions. If someone has moved and you can



get their new phone number, the car can take you to the new address.

Of course, privacy considerations will have to be worked out before that sort of system is brought in.

Satellite navigation operates as the name suggests, by using satellites that send signals to the car, giving its position. Currently there are 28 navigational satellites, about seven of which can be picked up by the car at any one time. ■



COMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

July 17th. Committee Meeting

July 26th. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

August 4th. WICEN Test Day.

August 17th/18th. Remembrance Day Contest. (At VK3CAZ)

August 21st. Committee Meeting

August 22nd. Licence Exams at BRACE

August 30th. General Meeting.

November 2nd. WICEN - Bike Ride. Help wanted.

Monday Nights - Practical Nights.

2M Scramble - Sunday Nights 7.50pm 146.425 to 146.600 Mhz.

Club Net - Thursday Nights 8pm. 3.610 +/- QRM - (8.30pm during Daylight Saving.)

WICEN Training Nights - 4th. Wednesday each month.



INFORMATION

B.A.R.G.

THE BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC.

A GROUP OF RADIO ENTHUSIASTS LICENSED TO EXPERIMENT
WITH LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL RADIO COMMUNICATIONS ON AN AMATEUR BASIS.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC.

B.A.R.G. NEWS

MR. G. CORNELL VK3FGC
304 WENDUREE PDE.
BALLARAT VIC 3355



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23 JUL 1996